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## FINE ARTS.

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### IMPROVED DRAWING-BOARD.

*The Thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. GEORGE YELDHAM, 5 Adelaide Place, London Bridge, for his Improved Drawing-board, a Model of which has been placed in the Society's Repository.*

SIR, 5 Adelaide Place, London Bridge,  
8th April, 1840.

BEING desirous of submitting to the notice of the Society of Arts a drawing-board, in which I profess to have made many important and valuable improvements, I should be glad to know when it should be sent, and the time it is likely to be laid before the Committee.

My reason for asking this information is, that Messrs. Brunel and Braithwaite, engineers, and Mr. Tite, architect, have some of the boards in use and are likely (with others) to require more.

I have testimonials of the above gentlemen, which I will send with the board and particulars.

I am, Sir, &c. &c.

*To the Secretary of the  
Society of Arts.*

GEO. YELDHAM.

*Eastern Counties Railway Office,  
Adelaide Place, London Bridge,*

SIR,

11th February, 1840.

IN reply to your favour, expressing a desire of my opinion as to the improvement you have professed to have made in drawing-boards, I cannot withhold for a moment my entire conviction that, were they generally known, no professional man would be without them. They are all that can be desired if properly made and the principle explained, which ought to be done by pasting directions upon the backs.

Those you have made for my office give every satisfaction.

I am, Sir, &c. &c.

JNO. BRAITHWAITE.

*Mr. GEORGE YELDHAM.*

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17 St. Helen's Place,

21st February, 1840.

SIR,

I HAVE examined your drawing-boards, and they have been in use by my clerks, and I consider them to be a decided improvement upon any of the modes usually adopted for making them.

I am, Sir, &c. &c.

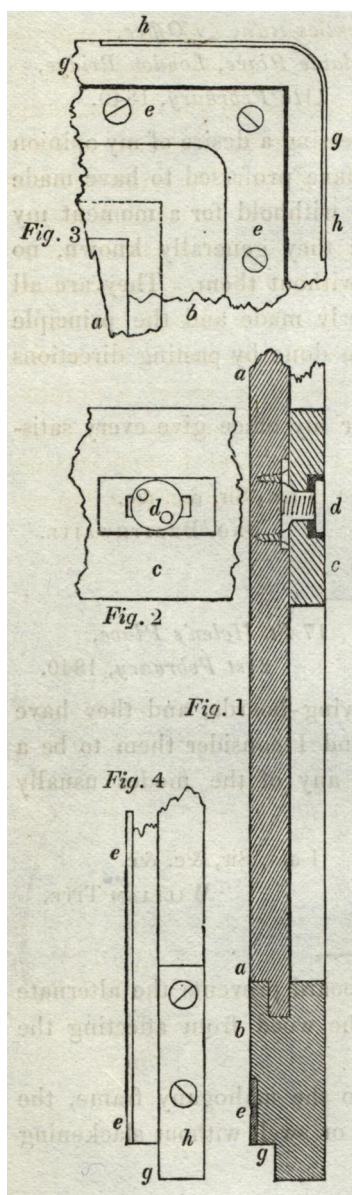
WILLIAM TITE.

*Mr. YELDHAM.*

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The construction of this board prevents the alternate shrinking and swelling of the wood from affecting the paper.

The paper being fixed to the mahogany frame, the panel is at liberty to shrink or swell without slackening or bursting the paper.



The panel is kept close to the paper, with an even surface, by means of stretchers at the back, framed into the mahogany sides, which are screwed to the panel. These screws are allowed to traverse with the panel, the holes in the stretchers being elongated to admit of the same.

The frame is rebated all round to protect the working edges from receiving grit or dirt, or being in any way mutilated when put on the ground.

The board being perfectly square, the T square may be applied to any side, and will coincide with lines previously drawn from the opposite side, and the paper may be speedily and accurately taken off by means of a gauge-knife run round the working edges.

Figure 1, is a section of one end; figure 2, part of a cross bar; figure 3, top view of a corner; figure 4, side view of a corner.

*a a*, figure 1, the panel

tongued into the frame *b*, easy enough to shrink or expand when drying or wetting: *d*, figure 1 and figure 2, the screws which bind the panel in various places to the cross bars *c*; the head of the screw slides on a brass plate, both being let into the bar flush. The screw enters a projecting socket screwed to the panel, by which it is supported in nearly its whole length, so that it cannot tilt or be pulled aside; and the even contact of the sliding surfaces is thus ensured. The panel, therefore, though at liberty to slide, is held flat by the several cross bars. The working margin *e*, is faced with metal to secure a durable straight-edge for the T square to slide against; an outer margin *f*, protects the working edge, and the four corners are well rounded and covered with metal as at *g*, figures 3 and 4.